

### Highlights

- Local Geographic Activity Designation (Click [here](#) for definitions) = WIDESPREAD
- Hospital labs reported 836 tests run with 117 positive results (14%) for week 38 (115 type A; 2 Type B); 34% higher than the previous week and the 6<sup>th</sup> consecutive weekly increase.
- Hospital emergency department (ED) and pediatric urgent care (PUC) information continue to indicate elevated levels of visits for ILI and ILI related symptoms, such as cough and fever conditions.
- Respiratory related visits in both EDs and PUCs again increased in week 39 (2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive week).
- School absences increased in week 39. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive weekly increase.
- Increases in over-the-counter medication sales have been seen for cough & cold medication, pediatric anti-fever medication, electrolytes, thermometers, chest rubs, and throat lozenges. Increases in antiviral prescriptions have also occurred for five weeks in a row.
- Nationally, 99% of all subtyped influenza A viruses being reported to CDC were 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses.

### Local Flu Activity Dashboard *(All data are preliminary and may change as more reports are received.)*

Indicators	Most Complete Week Available	Current Week Value	% Change Chart from Last Week	# Weeks ↑ ↓	General Trend Chart
Hospital Lab Data	38	14.0% Pos.		6 ↑	
ILI Outpatient Data (Sentinel Medical Sites)	37	0.4% of All Visits		1 ↓	
<b>Hospital ED Data:</b>					
<i>Coded as ILI</i>	38	7.1% of All ED Visits		6 ↑	
<i>Complaint Defined as ILI</i>	39	6.1% of ALL ED Visits		7 ↑	
<i>Categorized as Respiratory</i>	39	21.6% of All ED Visits		2 ↑	
<b>Pediatric Urgent Care Data:</b>					
<i>Complaint Defined as ILI</i>	39	22.1% of All PUC Visits		5 ↑	
<i>Categorized as Respiratory</i>	39	53.6% of All PUC Visits		2 ↑	
School Absences	39	8.7% Absent		5 ↑	
Death Certificate Pneumonia & Influenza Deaths	39	9.3% of All Deaths		1 ↓	
<b>Medication Data:</b>					
<i>OTC Cough &amp; Cold Sales</i>	39	9,305 Total Sales		1 ↑	
<i>Thermometer</i>	39	319 Total Sales		7 ↑	
<i>Antiviral Prescriptions</i>	38	4.2% of All Anti-Infective		5 ↑	

**Cumulative Numbers as of August 1 - Sept. 08, 2009\*, 12:00 PM**

	Suspected	Confirmed
Influenza Clusters/Outbreaks Reported	1	0
Influenza Associated Hospitalizations (IAH) Reported**	33	69
<i>IAH Confirmed Pandemic (H1N1) 2009</i>	<i>Not Available</i>	31
<i>IAH Resulting in Death</i>	<i>Not Available</i>	3
Pediatric Influenza Associated Death Reported	0	0

\*Numbers subject to fluctuations as lab results are received and suspects are determined confirmed or not a case.

\*\*Due to reporting variations, these numbers most likely represent an undercount.

### Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality

In week 39 of 2009 (Sept 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009), 9.1% of all Columbus deaths were reported as due to pneumonia or influenza (Figure 1). Nationally, 6.1% of deaths reported were due to pneumonia or influenza in week 38. This is below the national epidemic threshold of 6.4%.

### Influenza Morbidity and Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) Reports

The week 38 percentage of Franklin County resident BioSense ED hospital encounters is 7.1% for ILI coded chief complaints and 3.7% for ILI diagnosis (Figure 2). Specific complaints of influenza and defined influenza like illness symptoms continue to increase in both EDs and Pediatric Urgent Care sites (Figures 2-4).

Nationally, during week 38 of 2009, 4.2% of patient visits reported through the US Outpatient Influenza-like Illness Surveillance Network (ILINet), were due to influenza-like illness (ILI). This percentage is above the national baseline of 2.4%.

### Laboratory Surveillance

During week 38 of 2009, reporting Franklin County sentinel laboratories tested 836 specimens, with 117 (14%) positive (Figure 5). Current preliminary data for week 39 indicate a slightly lower percentage (~12%). The total number of tests done by local reporting labs from week 35 through preliminary week 39 is 3,424, with 362 positives (358 type A, 4 type B). Nationally, during week 38, WHO and NREVSS laboratories reported 9,314 specimens tested for influenza viruses, 2,126 (22.8%) of which were positive (Figures 3). During week 38, seasonal influenza A (H1), A (H3) and influenza B viruses co-circulated at low levels with 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses. Over 99% of all subtyped influenza A viruses reported to CDC this week were 2009 influenza A (H1N1) viruses. See <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> for a comprehensive national report.

The table below shows 2009-10 (starting August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009) cumulative PCR and culture influenza lab results from ODH lab (as of 10/7/2009).

Location	# Seasonal A (H1)	# Seasonal A (H3)	# Seasonal B	# Pandemic A (H1)	# PCR Influenza Not Detected
Franklin County	0	0	0	40*	100
Ohio	1	0	0	115	244

Source: ODH Lab (based on county of provider submitting specimen, not county of patient's residence)

\*Not an official count of Pandemic Influenza A (H1N1) in Franklin County. Similar to the CDC and ODH, individual case counts are no longer being tracked. See <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/> or <http://www.cdrinfo.com/H1N1flu.html> for more details.

### ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Respiratory Visits

In the 39<sup>th</sup> week of 2009, the percentage of all ED visits categorized as *respiratory* (21.6%) increased compared to the previous week (+11.9%). Similarly, the percentage of reporting Pediatric Urgent Care visits categorized as *respiratory* (53.6%) increased slightly compared to the previous week (+7.7%) (Figure 6).

### Over-the-Counter Medication Sales and Antiviral Prescriptions

In week 39 of 2009, there were continued increases in several over-the-counter medication sales, including cough & cold medication, pediatric anti-fever medication, electrolytes, thermometers, chest rubs, and throat lozenges (Figure 7). Additionally, in week 38, the percentage of Franklin County pharmacy prescriptions for antivirals, out of all anti-infective prescriptions, increased compared to the previous weeks (Figure 8). During week 38, the national antiviral prescription percentage also increased.

### Additional Influenza Activity Web Links:

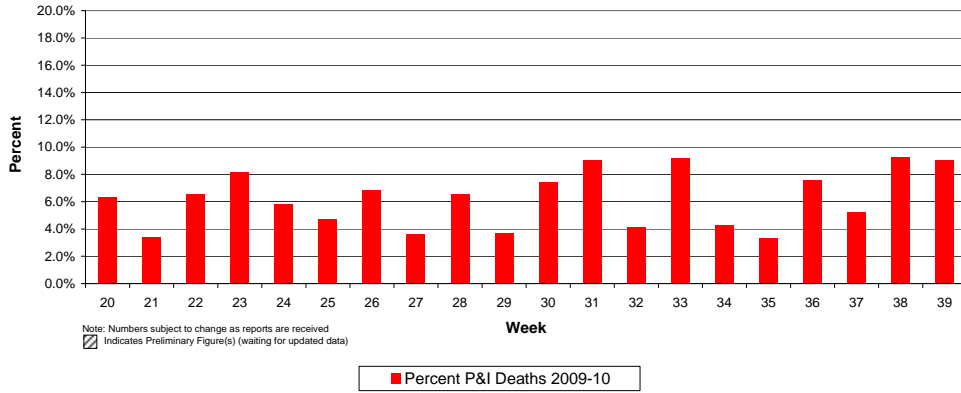
National Pandemic H1N1 Situation Updates: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/update.htm>

International Pandemic H1N1 Activity Map: <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/updates/international/map.htm>

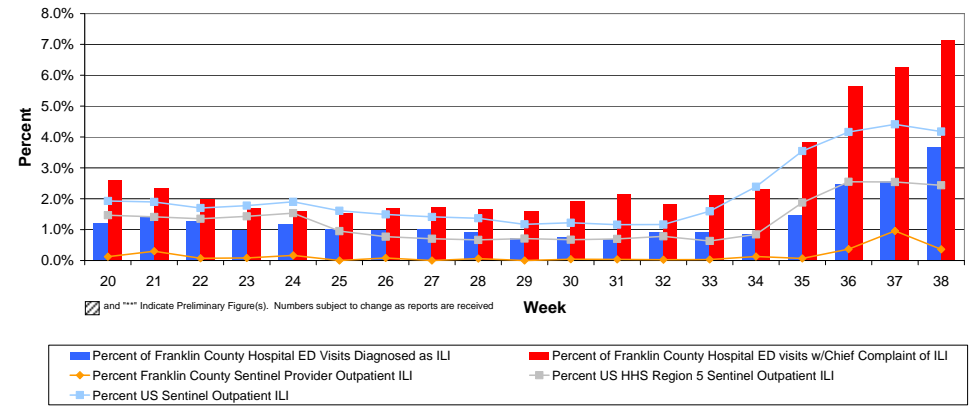
World health Organization Situation Updates: <http://www.who.int/csr/disease/swineflu/updates/en/index.html>

# Columbus & Franklin County Influenza Monitoring Summary – Week 39 (9/27-10/3/09)

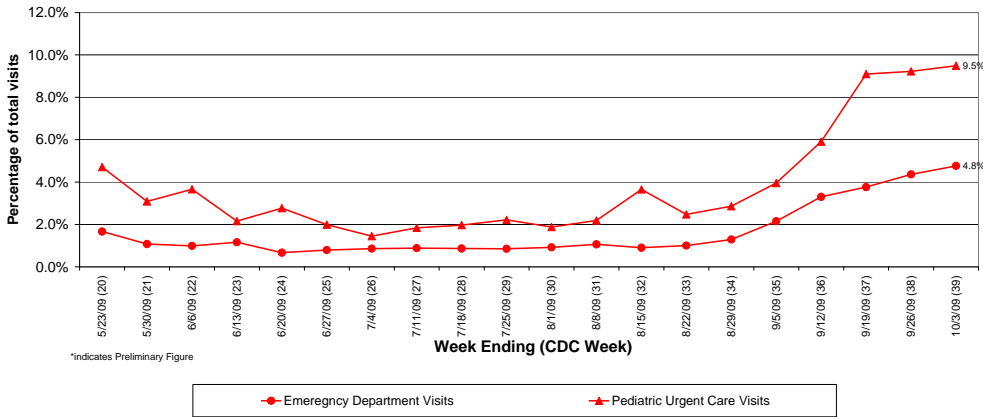
**Figure 1: Percentage of Deaths due to Pneumonia and Influenza  
Columbus, Ohio 2009-10**



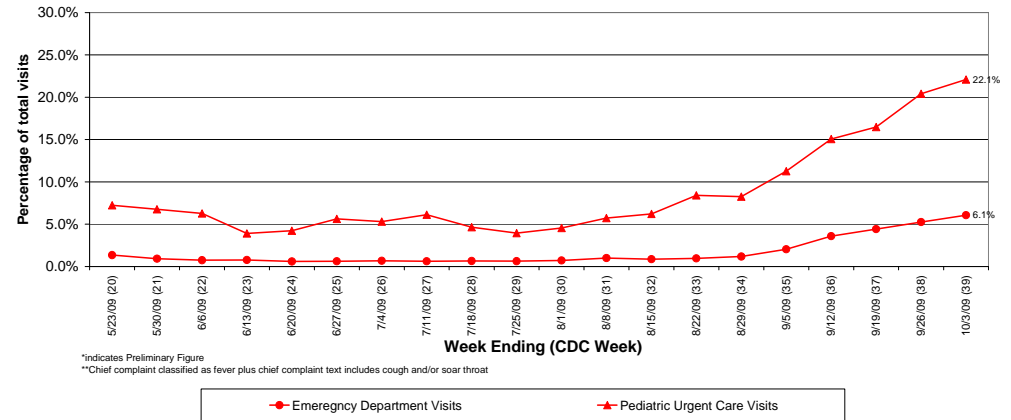
**Figure 2: Percentage of Local, National, and HHS Region 5 ILI Outpatient visits and Percentage of Franklin County Resident BioSense Hospital ILI ED Visits, 2009-10**



**Figure 3: ILI Specific Complaint ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH**

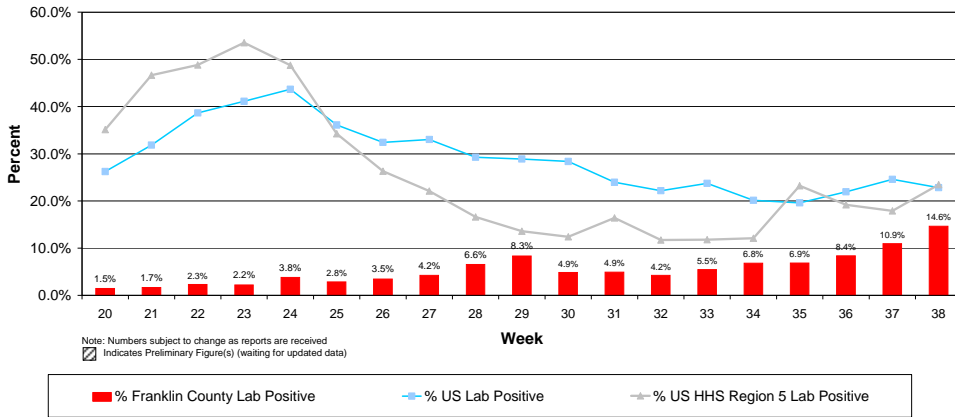


**Figure 4: ILI Defined\*\* ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH**

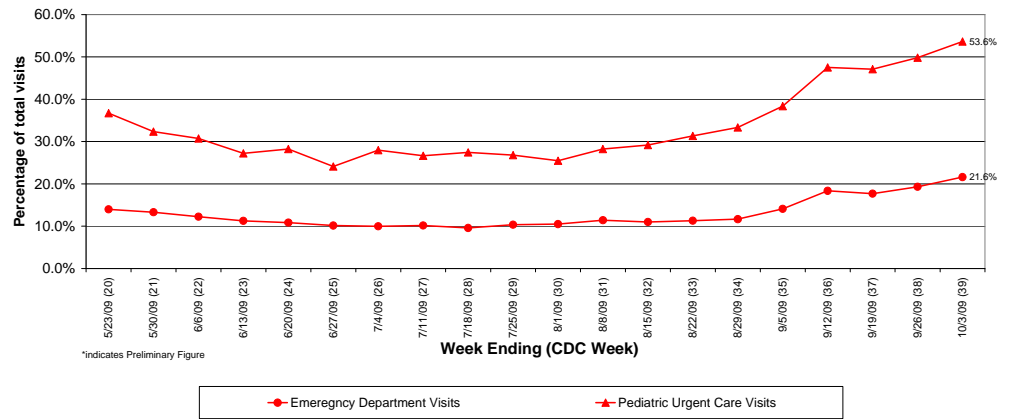


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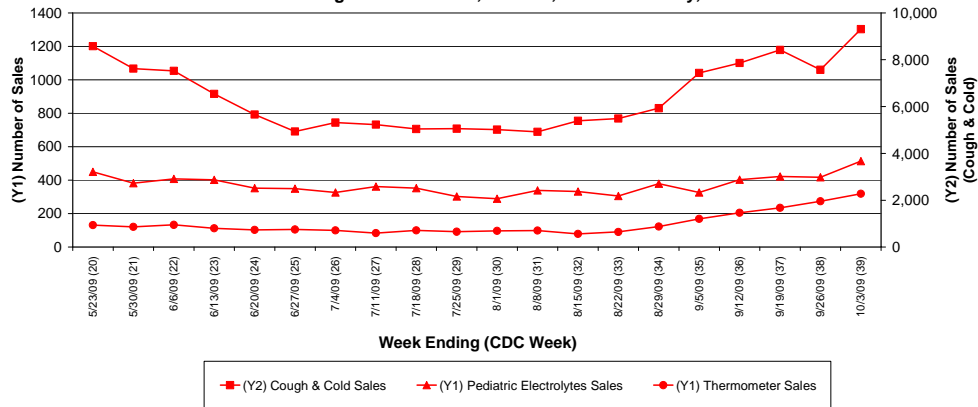
**Figure 5: Percentage of Local Reporting and National Laboratory Positive Influenza Tests by Week, 2009-10**



**Figure 6: Respiratory ED and Pediatric Urgent Care Visits, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH**



**Figure 7: Selected Number of Over-the-Counter Medication Sales and Weekly Baseline Averages and Medians, 2009-10, Franklin County, OH**



**Figure 8: Percentage of Antiviral Prescriptions out of Total Number of Anti-Infective Prescriptions (Selected Pharmacies)**

